

1. In a network environment comprising a server computing system network connectable to a plurality of client computing systems, a method for the server computing system coordinating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that assists in inter-team cooperation for accomplishing a collaborative goal, the method comprising the following:

an act of identifying a course of steps that when successfully completed advances the collaborative goal, the course of steps requiring cooperation between at least two teams of one or more users of the plurality of client computing systems;

for each of the plurality of steps in the course of steps, an act of identifying a corresponding team of one or more people responsible for proper implementation of the step, the course of steps including at least a previous step that corresponds to a first team, and a subsequent step that corresponds to a second team that is at least partially different than the first team;

for the previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a first user interface that at least a representative of the first team may access to complete the previous step;

an act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of at least the representative of the second team being automatically notified, an act of providing a second user interface that at least the representative of the second team may access to complete the subsequent step.

2. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein at least some of the steps in the course of steps are in parallel.

3. A method in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the subsequent step is a first subsequent step in parallel with a second subsequent step, the method further comprising the following:

an act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified, an act of providing a third user interface that at least the representative of the team corresponding to the second subsequent step may access to complete the second subsequent step.

4. A method in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is the same as the second team.

5. A method in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is at least partially different than the second team.

6. A method in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is the same as the first team.

7. A method in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is at least partially different than the first team.

8. A method in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the previous step is a first previous step in parallel with a second previous step, the method further comprising the following:

for the second previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a third user interface that at least a representative of a team that corresponds to the second previous step may access to complete the previous step, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of both the first and second previous steps.

9. A method in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is the same as the first team.

10. A method in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is at least partially different than the first team.

11. A method in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is the same as the second team.

12. A method in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is at least partially different than the second team.

13. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to automatically receive an e-mail notification upon the completion of the previous step.

14. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing some, but not all, of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

15. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing all of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

16. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the first user interface may be accessed by all of the first team.

17. A method in accordance with Claim 16, wherein the second user interface may be accessed by all of the second team.

18. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the second user interface may be accessed by all of the second team.

19. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the product is a first product and the software performance deviation is in a plurality of products including the first product.

20. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act notifying at least the representative of the first team of a network address of at least the representative of the second team, wherein at least the representative of the second team is automatically notified directly by the first team upon the completion of the previous step.

21. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of receiving notification from the first team that the previous step is completed; and

an act of automatically notifying at least the representative of the second team in response to the act of receiving notification.

22. A computer program product for use in a network environment comprising a server computing system network connectable to a plurality of client computing systems, the computer program product for implementing a method for the server computing system coordinating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that assists in inter-team cooperation for accomplishing a collaborative goal, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors at the server computing system, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of identifying a course of steps that when successfully completed advances the collaborative goal, the course of steps requiring cooperation between at least two teams of one or more users of the plurality of client computing systems;

for each of the plurality of steps in the course of steps, an act of identifying a corresponding team of one or more people responsible for proper implementation of the step, the course of steps including at least a previous step that corresponds to a first team, and a subsequent step that corresponds to a second team that is at least partially different than the first team;

for the previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a first user interface that at least a representative of the first team may access to complete the previous step;

an act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of at least the representative of the second team being automatically notified, an act of providing a second user interface that at least the representative of the second team may access to complete the subsequent step.

23. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 22, wherein the one or more computer-readable media are physical media.

24. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 23, wherein the physical media is system memory.

25. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 23, wherein the physical media is persistent memory.

26. In a network environment comprising a server computing system network connectable to a plurality of client computing systems, a method for the server computing system coordinating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that assists in the generation of corrective software that resolves a software performance deviation, the method comprising the following:

an act of identifying a course of steps that when successfully completed advances development of corrective software for a software performance deviation in a product, the course of steps requiring cooperation between at least two teams of one or more users of the plurality of client computing systems;

for each of the plurality of steps in the course of steps, an act of identifying a corresponding team of one or more people responsible for proper implementation of the step, the course of steps including at least a previous step that corresponds to a first team, and a subsequent step that corresponds to a second team that is at least partially different than the first team;

for the previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a first user interface that at least a representative of the first team may access to complete the previous step;

an act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of at least the representative of the second team being automatically notified, an act of providing a second user interface that at least the representative of the second team may access to complete the subsequent step.

27. A method in accordance with Claim 26, further comprising the following:

an act of detecting a software performance deviation in the product.



28. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein at least some of the steps in the course of steps are in parallel.

29. A method in accordance with Claim 28, wherein the subsequent step is a first subsequent step in parallel with a second subsequent step, the method further comprising the following:

an act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified, an act of providing a third user interface that at least the representative of the team corresponding to the second subsequent step may access to complete the second subsequent step.

30. A method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is the same as the second team.

31. A method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is at least partially different than the second team.

32. A method in accordance with Claim 31, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is the same as the first team.

33. A method in accordance with Claim 31, wherein the team that corresponds to the second subsequent step is at least partially different than the first team.

34. A method in accordance with Claim 28, wherein the previous step is a first previous step in parallel with a second previous step, the method further comprising the following:

for the second previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a third user interface that at least a representative of a team that corresponds to the second previous step may access to complete the previous step, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of both the first and second previous steps.

35. A method in accordance with Claim 34, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is the same as the first team.

36. A method in accordance with Claim 34, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is at least partially different than the first team.

37. A method in accordance with Claim 36, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is the same as the second team.

38. A method in accordance with Claim 36, wherein the team that corresponds to the second previous step is at least partially different than the second team.

39. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to automatically receive an e-mail notification upon the completion of the previous step.

40. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing some, but not all, of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

41. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of causing all of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

42. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the first user interface may be accessed by all of the first team.

43. A method in accordance with Claim 42, wherein the second user interface may be accessed by all of the second team.

44. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the second user interface may be accessed by all of the second team.

45. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the product is a first product and the software performance deviation is in a plurality of products including the first product.

46. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act notifying at least the representative of the first team of a network address of at least the representative of the second team, wherein at least the representative of the second team is automatically notified directly by the first team upon the completion of the previous step.

47. A method in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises the following:

an act of receiving notification from the first team that the previous step is completed; and

an act of automatically notifying at least the representative of the second team in response to the act of receiving notification.

48. A computer program product for use in a network environment that comprises a server computing system network connectable to a plurality of client computing systems, the computer program product for implementing a method for the server computing system coordinating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that assists in the generation of corrective software that resolves a software performance deviation, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors at the server computing system, cause the server computing system to implement the method, the method comprising the following:

an act of identifying a course of steps that when successfully completed advances development of corrective software for a software performance deviation in a product, the course of steps requiring cooperation between at least two teams of one or more users of the plurality of client computing systems;

for each of the plurality of steps in the course of steps, an act of identifying a corresponding team of one or more people responsible for proper implementation of the step, the course of steps including at least a previous step that corresponds to a first team, and a subsequent step that corresponds to a second team that is at least partially different than the first team;

for the previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a first user interface that at least a representative of the first team may access to complete the previous step;

an act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of at least the representative of the second team being automatically notified, an act of providing a second user interface that at least the representative of the second team may access to complete the subsequent step.

49. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the one or more computer-readable media are physical media.

50. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 49, wherein the physical media is system memory.

51. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 49, wherein the physical media is persistent memory.

52. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the one or more computer-readable media further have thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the computing system to perform the following:

an act of detecting a software performance deviation in the product.

53. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the subsequent step is a first subsequent step in parallel with a second subsequent step, the one or more computer-readable media further having thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of causing at least a representative of a team corresponding to the second subsequent step to be automatically notified, an act of providing a third user interface that at least the representative of the team corresponding to the second subsequent step may access to complete the second subsequent step.

54. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the previous step is a first previous step in parallel with a second previous step, the one or more computer-readable media further having thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

for the second previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a third user interface that at least a representative of a team that corresponds to the second previous step may access to complete the previous step, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprises an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of both the first and second previous steps.

55. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the computer-executable instructions for performing the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprise computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of causing at least the representative of the second team to automatically receive an e-mail notification upon the completion of the previous step.

56. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprise computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of causing some, but not all, of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

57. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprise computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of causing all of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step.

58. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprise computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:



an act notifying at least the representative of the first team of a network address of at least the representative of the second team, wherein at least the representative of the second team is automatically notified directly by the first team upon the completion of the previous step.

59. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 48, wherein the act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step comprise computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the server computing system to perform the following:

an act of receiving notification from the first team that the previous step is completed; and

an act of automatically notifying at least the representative of the second team in response to the act of receiving notification.

60. In a network environment comprising a server computing system network connectable to a plurality of client computing systems, a method for the server computing system coordinating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that assists in the generation of corrective software that resolves a software performance deviation, the method comprising the following:

an act of identifying a course of steps that when successfully completed advances development of corrective software for a software performance deviation in a product, the course of steps requiring cooperation between at least two teams of one or more users of the plurality of client computing systems; and

a step for facilitating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in manner that facilitates completion of the course of steps.

61. A method in accordance with Claim 60, wherein the step for facilitating communication between the plurality of client computing systems in a manner that facilitates completion of the course of steps comprises the following:

for each of the plurality of steps in the course of steps, an act of identifying a corresponding team of one or more people responsible for proper implementation of the step, the course of steps including at least a previous step that corresponds to a first team, and a subsequent step that corresponds to a second team that is at least partially different than the first team;

for the previous step in the course of steps, an act of providing a first user interface that at least a representative of the first team may access to complete the previous step;

an act of causing at least a representative of the second team to be automatically notified upon the completion of the previous step; and

after the act of at least the representative of the second team being automatically notified, an act of providing a second user interface that at least the representative of the second team may access to complete the subsequent step.

62. A method in accordance with Claim 61, further comprising the following:  
an act of detecting a software performance deviation in the product.

63. A method in accordance with Claim 60, further comprising the following:  
an act of detecting a software performance deviation in the product.